

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is an abuse of power and a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. To air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election in the guise of news is a disgrace. There are good reasons for the laws we have governing what can and cannot be shown in the weeks prior to an election. It is undemocratic and dangerous for a broadcasting company to use a loop hole to get around those laws to smear a candidate.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.